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10/686,889

10/15/2003

Luke Kowalski

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EXAMINER

ALI, OMAR R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2109

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
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3 MONTHS

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/686,889

Applicant(s)

KOWALSKI ET AL.

Examiner

Omar Abdul-Ali

Art Unit

2109

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to the original filing of October 15, 2003. Claims 1-33 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 25, 28, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Litoiu et al. (US 2004/0088678).

Claims 25, 28, and 31: Litoiu discloses a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, comprising:

- a. displaying a diagram that includes a representation of a plurality of interconnected business objects on the browser (page 2, paragraph 18);
- b detecting an event triggered by the user on the displayed diagram on the browser (page 2, paragraph 18);
- c. submitting a request associated with the triggered event to a controller, the controller being configured to interface between the thin client and a business object

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controlling application running on the server, the controller being configured to control page flow between the application and the browser on the thin client depending upon the detected event or upon a predetermined condition (pages 4-5, paragraph 36);

d. changing the state of the business object controlling application on the server according to the detected event or the predetermined condition (page 5, paragraph 37);

e. receiving an answer from the controller in response to the submitted request, the received answer causing the browser to refresh its display of the diagram so as to reflect the changed state of the business object controlling application (page 5, paragraph 37).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-24, 26, 29, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Litoiu et al. (US 2004/0088678) in view of Geddes et al. (5,596,704).

Claims 1, 9, and 17: Litoiu discloses a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, comprising:

a. displaying at least a portion of the diagram in an active area of the browser, the active area being located in a first portion of the browser (page 2, paragraph 18);

b. displaying a diagram overview in a second portion of the browser, the diagram overview including a representation of an entirety of the diagram and indicating a currently displayed portion of the diagram that is displayed in the active area (page 2, paragraph 19);

c. enabling a selection of at least one of the plurality of business objects of the diagram displayed in the active area (page 2, paragraph 18);

d. providing contextual information regarding the diagram displayed in the active area in a third portion of the browser (page 3, paragraph 24);

e. providing hierarchical information regarding the selected at least one of the plurality of business objects in a fourth portion of the browser (page 3, paragraphs 24 and 27);

Litoiu discloses a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, but does not explicitly disclose enabling a selection of one of a plurality of canvas actions, each of the plurality of canvas actions enabling a user to take one of a corresponding plurality of actions on the selected at least one of the plurality of business objects. Geddes discloses a similar system for representing and manipulating a diagram that further discloses enabling the user to perform various actions on nodes [business objects] (column 10, lines 28-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the selection of a plurality of canvas actions to be

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performed on the business objects. One would have been motivated to enable the selection of a plurality of canvas actions in order to provide different options for the development of a diagram.

Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, and Geddes further discloses carrying out the selected canvas action on the selected at least one of a plurality of business objects (column 10, lines 28-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to carry out selected canvas actions on the nodes. One would have been motivated to carry out the selected canvas actions in order to enable the user to manipulate the diagram that is being developed.

Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, and Geddes further discloses updating the process flow in response to user modification (column 10, lines 28-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to refresh the active area of the browser to display a revised portion of the diagram. One would have been motivated to refresh the active area of the browser in order to verify that the modifications to the diagram have been made.

Claims 2, 10, and 18: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above. While neither reference explicitly disclosed pan controls disposed on each side of the active area of the browser, Geddes does disclose the ability to "pan" and "scroll"

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around the diagram (column 9, lines 55-64). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the diagram to be panned in different directions using pan controls. One would have been motivated to enable the diagram to be panned in different directions using pan controls in order to view different portions of the diagram.

Claims 3, 11, and 19: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above, and Litoiu further discloses:

a. enabling the active area of the browser to display a next adjacent quadrant of the displayed diagram upon detecting a predetermined user action (page 2; paragraph 18).

Claims 4, 12, and 20: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above, and Litoiu further discloses:

a. at least one of the business objects includes at least one hierarchically lower business object coupled thereto in a parent-child relationship (page 2, paragraph 18).

Claims 5, 13, and 21: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 4, 12, and 20 above, and Litoiu further discloses:

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a. displaying the at least one hierarchically lower business object within the active area (page 2, paragraph 18).

Claims 6, 14, and 22: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above, and Litoiu further discloses:

a. updating the contextual information displayed within the third portion of the browser to reflect the portion of the diagram currently displayed in the active area of the browser (page 3, paragraphs 24 and 27).

Claims 7, 15, and 23: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above, and Geddes further discloses adding and deleting group nodes (column 10, lines 28-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include actions such as add node, remove node, update node, etc. One would have been motivated to include these actions in order to enable the user to perform manipulations on the diagram that is being developed.

Claims 8, 16, and 24: Litoiu and Geddes disclose a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram as in Claims 1, 9, and 17 above, and Geddes further discloses automatically updating [refreshing] the

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diagram in response to user modification (column 10, lines 28-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to refresh an area of the browser to display a revised portion of the diagram. One would have been motivated to refresh the active area of the browser in order to verify that the modifications to the diagram have been made.

Claims 26, 29, and 32: Litoiu discloses a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, but does not explicitly disclose the business controlling application is coupled to a database that stores the data associated with the plurality of business objects, further including a step of changing the data stored within database to reflect the changed state of the business controlling application. Geddes discloses a similar system for representing and manipulating a diagram that further discloses a storage means for data entry and retrieval, where process models are retrieved from the storage means for processing (column 1, lines 46-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the data is stored in a database and is updated according to the manipulations made by the user. One would have been motivated to store the data in a database and update the data in order to retain changes made by the user on the software application

5. Claims 27, 30, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Litoiu et al. (US 2004/0088678) in view of Naps et al. ("A multi-

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windowed environment for simultaneous visualization of related algorithms on the World Wide Web", SIGSE 1998, pp 277-281).

Claims 27, 30, and 33: Litoiu discloses a method, machine-readable medium, and system for representing and manipulating a diagram, but does not explicitly disclose the answer from the controller includes a URL of a Web page. Naps discloses a similar system for representing and manipulating a diagram further comprising synchronizing snapshots of algorithms with a URL that appears in the upper frame of the browser (page 278, column 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the answer from the controller includes a URL of a webpage." One would have been motivated to include the URL of a webpage with the answer from the controller in order to supplement the visualizations with hypertext materials.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Abdul-Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on 571-270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OAA

3/14/07


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